

AMIAA NEWS

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Commitment

Andrew Torigian

“Commit your way to the Lord; trust in Him, and He will act.”

(Psalm 37:5)

The commitment of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ was total and unequivocal. Who could provide us with a clearer vision of commitment? Using Him as our standard, where do we rank?

Obviously, His standard is unattainable by us because it is perfect. What He expects is that we strive to reach it. In other words, we do our best to grow to be like Him. We must realize that we will experience solid Christian growth as we set goals and plan to reach those goals leading to increased faith and blessing in our lives.

St. Gregory the Illuminator was such a Christian. He was committed to that Christ-like standard, using our Lord as the example for his life. Through St. Gregory the Illuminator, God cured King Drtad in 301 A.D. of his ailment, which directly resulted in the Armenian people accepting the Christian faith. St. Gregory the Illuminator, after spending 15 years in the dungeon at Khor Virab, had enough faith to allow him to survive and spread the Good News under the most dire circumstances.

After the earthquake of December 7, 1988, the Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA) made a commitment to provide humanitarian help to our brothers and sisters in Armenia affected by that devastating event. Then on September 21, 1991 when the doors of freedom opened in Armenia, AMAA was able to expand its commitment to bringing spiritual help to our homeland.

It was then that the AMAA vigorously reached out to our fellow countrymen, encouraging strong commitment to our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ and helping them grow in Christian faith.

Today, thanks to our dedicated faithful AMAA leaders in Armenia and around the world, we are spreading the Good News as written in John 3:16. **“For God so loved the world that He gave His only Son, so that everyone who believes in Him may not perish but may have eternal life.”**

What about *you*? Where do you stand in your commitment to our Lord and to the work of His Kingdom? Let's be sure our commitment to *His* work is strong and unquestionable, which brings us true joy and success in our lives. ☐

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THANK YOU!

We wanted to express our sincere appreciation for all of you who responded to the cry for help when the Sheen-Shoghik Hankavan Camp bridge collapsed. You gave generously and to date we have received about 80% of the funds needed to rebuild the bridge! If you have not given yet, please consider a gift to bring this vital project to completion. Thank you again and we thank God for His provision through you.

43rd Anniversary of the Armenian Evangelical Church of Montreal

The celebration of the anniversary of any church is a phenomenal occasion simply because it is a triumph of Christianity. On June 10, 2007 the Armenian Evangelical Church of Montreal honored its history with the observance of its 43rd anniversary. However, it was more than a gala. It was a recognition of all the blessings bestowed upon the church by the grace of God over the many years.

The late 1950's and early 1960's saw a great immigration of Armenians of all denominations to Canada, particularly the cities of Montreal and Toronto. Among them were evangelicals who began to meet weekly within each other's homes. Their membership grew and in 1963 they sought assistance from the Armenian Evangelical Union in order to begin the process of substantiating themselves as a church. Through the combined efforts of the Armenian Evangelical Union of North America and the United Church of Canada, the Armenian Evangelical Church of Montreal was officially incorporated as a member church of the United Church of Canada.

The special occasion of our 43rd anniversary began with a concert that was held in the church where the audience was entertained by the outstanding performances of Mrs. Anais Doramadjan; Miss Armine Kasabian, a music major at McGill University; Mr. Ari Agnerian and Mr. Paul Nercessian. The festivities continued with a lavish dinner held in the Aroyan Hall which was prepared by the devoted members of the Ladies Auxiliary after months of organiz-



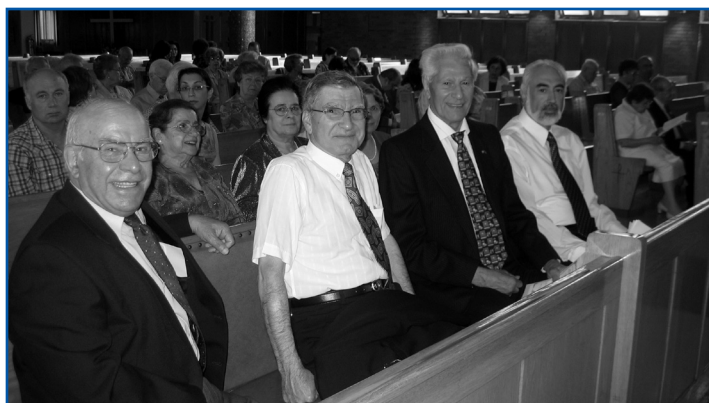
The Ladies Auxiliary of the Armenian Evangelical Church of Montreal pictured with AMAA Executive Director Andy Torigian (l to r) Gladys Toutikian, Kohar Khatchikian, Elizabet Aroyan, Andy Torigian, Margueritte (Margo) Melkonian, Chairperson, and Anais Doramadjan. Missing from picture are Berta Torossian and Arpy Matian.



43rd Anniversary Banquet of the Armenian Evang'l Church of Montreal.



The performers (l to r) Paul Nercessian, Anais Doramadjan, Ari Agnerian and Armine Kasabian



Concert Audience. Sitting in the front row (l to r) Rev. Jerair Bezdikian, Rev. Dr. Manuel Jinbachian, Andy Torigian, Rev. Mher Khatchikian.

ing and preparation. Special guest and keynote speaker for the evening was Mr. Andrew Torigian, Executive Director of the AMAA, who graciously enlightened the congregation with his kind words and enthusiasm. The history of the church was further illustrated during the cake-cutting ceremony when five of the founding members of the congregation were asked to light a candle on each cake which signified the five different properties occupied by the church during the course of its 43 years.

The Armenian Evangelical Church of Montreal continues to thrive in all spheres of church life. Within 43 years, through its determination and resilience, the congregation now boasts a membership of 125 families. It enjoys the talents and skills of the Ladies Auxiliary, (whose inexhaustible efforts permeate every aspect of church life and sustain church livelihood), an Adult Fellowship Group, a Senior's and Junior's youth group whose member's loyalty and devotion echo that of the pillars of our congregation of 43 years ago, a Sunday School and for two weeks every summer, a Vacation Bible School.

Through its dedication to the principles of Christianity, through its perseverance under diverse and unique circumstances, all the while not compromising its spiritual fidelity to the word of God and the spirit of Christ, the Armenian Evangelical Church of Montreal has earned its place as an exemplary congregation and a symbol of hope and prosperity. □

AMAA Sunday in Toronto

Sunday, July 1, was a special day at the Armenian Evangelical Church of Toronto. Pastor Samuel Albarian greeted the congregation and reminded them that July 1 was the anniversary of the Armenian Evangelical Church (established July 1, 1846) and it was also Canada Day. He welcomed AMAA Field Director Mr. Dikran Youmshakian who had joined the congregation to celebrate AMAA Sunday. The entire service was dedicated for missions. Mr. & Mrs. David Torunian, co-chairs of the Church's Missions Committee, gave an update on the mission work in Armenia and encouraged the congregation to continue their support. The Toronto Church has adopted the Evangelical Church of Armenia in Spitak as their sister church. Recently a group from the church visited Spitak. Mr. Youmshakian gave the sermon that day and after church, during the missions lunch, presented AMAA programs in various countries around the world. A video on AMAA-supported projects in Lebanon was much appreciated. Many members of the church come from the Middle East and they were delighted to see pictures from their past.



Toronto Congregation

vited to the meeting. AMAA Field Director Mr. Dikran Youmshakian participated representing the AMAA. AMAC President Rev. Mher Khatchikian opened the meeting and gave



AMAC Board Members

a report on AMAC activities and also explained the purpose of this meeting. For the last few years, AMAC has been steadily moving forward but not as anticipated. There was need to revitalize AMAC and make it much more active. With the term of current Board Members ending, those present decided to invite churches to send their representatives to form a new Board which will serve until October 2008, hence preparing for new elections. Mr. Mihran Jizmejian was invited to serve as the Executive Director of AMAC (a volunteer position which he had faithfully held in the past). AMAC is an affiliate of the AMAA and they cooperate and coordinate their work serving the needs of our communities worldwide. □

AMAC Board Meets in Kingston, Ontario

A special meeting of the Armenian Missionary Association of Canada (AMAC) was held on Monday, July 2 in Kingston, Ontario. Invited to this meeting were all AMAC Board Members (past and present) and the founding members of AMAC. All four Armenian Evangelical Churches in Canada were also in-

Spiritual Corner

OUR INHERITANCE

Matthew 25:34-36

by Dikran Youmshakian

We appreciate those who remember us in their will and also those who leave a living legacy.

How about Christ? Do we appreciate His last will and legacy?

Jesus remembered us in His will and left not only a living legacy but also one that is eternal.

Jesus left no money, but placed the greatest amount in our account in heaven.

Jesus left no jewelry, but gave us a golden crown.

Jesus left no mansions, but prepared a dwelling place in heaven.

Jesus left no cars, but opened the highway to heaven.

Jesus left no securities, but gave us the certificate of righteousness.

Jesus remembered us in His will and thanks to Him we can have a meaningful life on earth and eternal life in heaven.

Are we ready to accept His will? Are we ready to accept His terms? Jesus gave His life for us. Are we willing to follow his steps - give comfort to those who are uncomfortable, food to those who are hungry, drink to those who are thirsty, clothe those who are naked, and care to those who are sick. When we do these for others, we do it for Jesus. That is how we become beneficiaries of His will and enjoy our inheritance. □

The Armenian Evangelical Church of Sydney

Sydney is the most populous city in Australia, the smallest continent in the southern hemisphere. Located on Australia's south-east coast, Sydney is the capitol of New South Wales, with a population of approximately 4.28 million, and is the site of the first European colony in Australia, established in 1788.

The first Armenians migrated to Australia in the 1850s, during the gold rush. Later, more Armenians began to migrate to Australia from their homeland due to political upheaval and other tragic events such as the 1896 massacres, the 1915 Armenian Genocide and the Second World War. However, the majority came to Australia from Egypt and Syria in the 1960s, then in the early 1970s from Cyprus after the Turkish occupation of the island and then from 1975 until 1992 from Lebanon during the period of civil unrest in the country. In 1980s also many Armenians migrated from Iran and Iraq and in the early 1990s, a small number of Armenians migrated from Armenia to escape the hardships caused by the combination of the collapse of Soviet Union and the devastating 1988 earthquake.

The Armenian community in Australia is estimated to be 40,000 from 43 countries around the world. The majority settled in Sydney where they have schools, churches, a weekly newspaper, monthly/bymonthly journals and many organizations.

The Armenian Evangelical Church of Sydney was founded on May 7, 1966 using the premises of the Congregational Church in Naremburn for worship services. In 1973, Rev. Bernard Geukgeuzian, representing the Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA), flew to Sydney on a fact-finding mission. He did not take long to conclude, as proposed by certain members of the congregation, that it was in the church's interest and longevity to become a member of the Congregational Union and later to Uniting Church in Australia. In 1985, the Armenian Evangelical Church moved from Naremburn to its current address in Willoughby, following a generous offer made by Uniting Church in Australia. They were granted permission to put the ground and the timber-built church on it to good use, as long as the church remains a member of the Uniting Church. In 1996, the church decided to replace the old building. The AMAA supported this project both financially and morally. AMAA continues to provide monetary support to this vital mission. The dedication of the new sanctuary took place on November 10, 1996.

The membership of the church is about 200. Besides the Sunday Worship Services, the church has an active Sunday School, Youth Group for juniors and seniors and a Ladies Society. The church is very active in the local Armenian Community and also beyond the continent down-under, through the AMA-Australia, an affiliate of AMAA. AMA-Australia, launched on March 11, 2001, is involved in supporting mission programs in Armenia and the Middle East. The church has an outreach

program to Melbourne (about 550 miles from Sydney), where 8000 Armenians live. The minister visits occasionally to conduct church services. The minister regularly visits also Perth, West Australia and conducts church service having an attendance of 50 (the number of the Armenians in West Australia is about 200).

Since 1993, Rev. Krikor Youmoushakian serves as the minister of the church and is the longest serving pastor in the history of the Armenian Evangelical Church in Sydney. □



Rev. Krikor Youmoushakian with his wife Datevig.



Some of the Sunday School Students.



Participants in a Leadership Training Program.

ORPHAN AND CHILD CARE

The Orphan and Child Care program is one of the success stories of the Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA). Thanks to the dedicated efforts of the AMAA Orphan and Child Care Committees of Boston, Los Angeles and New Jersey, AMAA has saved the lives of thousands of children in Armenia and Karabagh.

The program initially started in 1988, right after the earthquake, with the distribution of much needed relief supplies to the orphans and children devastated by the disaster. Over the following years, the program expanded to various regions in Armenia and Karabagh. Today, 2800 children and their families are the beneficiaries of the program. They are sponsored and are provided with much needed physical and spiritual aid. The cost of adding one more child on this program is only \$250 per year. Those who are interested and want to be part of this vital program and wish to make a life saving change, can just contact the AMAA office. This additional help will make a difference like it made for little Haik, whose story is a story of success.



Haik Khimchian - A Success Story!

Haik Khimchian was sponsored in 1996. His family was destitute and very needy. The AMAA's Sponsorship Program changed his life, as he found a true friend in his sponsor and received spiritual support.

Haik was born on September 9, 1988 in a Christian family. He was very young when he tasted the bitterness of being abandoned by his father. His mother devoted all her life to her only child and the family never lost hope. They trusted God and knew that the Lord never forgets His faithful children.

In spite of all the hardships, Haik proved to be a very smart child. He mastered the Armenian alphabet at age three, as he started to study the Bible. During his school years, he was noted for his exceptional skills. He participated in intellectual festivals and competitions winning the highest prizes. His first achievement was in 1996, when he took part in the essay competition "My Independent Country is Five Years Old" and won first place. In 2002 Haik participated in a TV intellectual game "We Know That You Know" winning second place. He received a computer as a gift. Haik wrote articles and poems for a children's magazine when he was 14.

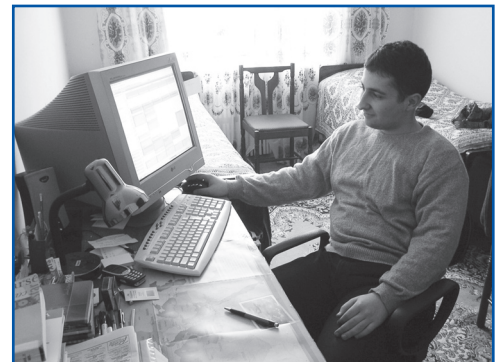
Haik also had special talent in languages. He mastered Russian, French, English and Arabic, and had special interest towards Japanese and Japan. His grandfather was a priest and had served in Japan in 1903. At the time, he brought back some souvenirs which they still keep in their house with great care and love. Now Haik is working on his Spanish.

Haik lives with his mother and aunt. He is in his fourth year of studying at the International Affairs Department of Yerevan State University and has very ambitious plans for the future -- to assist in the development of his fatherland. He strongly believes that with his knowledge and skills he will help bring positive change to Armenia.

The computer, which he won as a prize gave him a chance to master computer skills. Haik now creates web pages and thus helps his family earn a living.

Haik has not been alone in his achievements. The AMAA sponsorship program has helped him survive and overcome his daily burdens. With the help of the sponsorship program and his faithful sponsor, Mrs. Karen Bedrosian Richardson, the family struggled and survived through poverty and loneliness. The quarterly assistance and special gifts received both from the AMAA and his sponsor helped the mother feed her child and send him to school. Haik's very attentive sponsor always encouraged him, helped him in his studies and was always supportive with her warm letters. Seeing that the child is very talented and is especially gifted in languages, the sponsor helped him to take classes in Japanese. The sponsor and the sponsorship program have played a very important role in the present success and achievements of Haik Khimchian.

Haik is greatly appreciative to the AMAA Child-Sponsorship Program and his dear sponsor, Mrs. Karen Richardson!



Rev. Hovhannes Karjian Celebrates his 80th Birthday



On Sunday, August 5, 2007 Rev. Hovhannes Karjian of Swarthmore, PA was honored on his 80th Birthday. On this happy occasion family members, relatives and friends gathered at the home of the Karjians to congratulate Rev. Karjian and his wife, Rebecca, who has shared in his ministries over the years.

Rev. Karjian has served the Armenian Evangelical church faithfully as a pastor, teacher, administrator and as an effective writer. He has also served as President of the Union of Armenian Evangelical Churches in the Near East and the Near East School of Theology of Beirut, Lebanon

In honor of Rev. Karjian's Birthday, the family has requested that in lieu of gifts, donations be made to the AMAA Rev. Hovhannes Karjian Endowment Fund (which was established by his family) to support theological education in the Middle East.

AMAA Congratulates Rev. & Mrs. Karjian and thanks the family for their loving gesture of support. □

Mr. Vartan Sahagian's 75th Birthday Celebration



Mr. Vartan Sahagian of Paramus, NJ, was honored with a surprise party on his 75th birthday. The party organized by his children James and Maral and their families took place on Sunday, August 5, 2007 at Sayat Nova Restaurant in Hackensack, NJ. Many friends and relatives shared this happy occasion.

Mr. Sahagian is an active member of the Armenian Presbyterian Church of Paramus, NJ and a longtime supporter of the Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA). Before his retirement in 1997, Mr. Sahagian served the American Bible Society as one of their executive managers for over 40 years starting in Jerusalem and completing in New York City.

In lieu of birthday gifts, the family asked the guests to make donations to the AMAA's Orphan and Child Care Programs in Armenia. AMAA Congratulates Mr. Vartan and his wife Lucy on this happy occasion and thanks the family for their loving gesture of support. □

Meet Our Staff...

A DEDICATED VOLUNTEER

Marie Apovian Ziegler retired from work in 2005, but she never stopped working. She is AMAA's faithful volunteer. Every morning she anxiously waits for the telephone call to duty.

Mrs. Ziegler was born in West New York, NJ and has been a member of the Armenian Presbyterian Church of West New York, now located in Paramus, NJ. She graduated from Cliffside Park High School and continued her studies at Berkeley Business College. Upon graduation, she worked for Alcoa, Inc. in Edgewater, NJ for eight years where she met Mr. George Ziegler. They were married and moved to Oradell, NJ. She joined Hoffman and Boyle as a payroll officer (managing the payroll of all their stores). When their son Robert was born, Mrs. Ziegler stayed home with him for five years. When Robert started kindergarten, she joined River Dell Regional Schools in Oradell as a secretary in the Guidance Department. She served the school district for 38 years until her retirement in 2005. Her husband, passed away after 40 years of marriage.

Mrs. Ziegler was so dedicated to work that after retirement she volunteered at the AMAA and at the River Dell Middle School in River Edge.

Mrs. Ziegler is always on duty when she is needed and she always works with a smile on her face. Work for her is a joy and she makes it joyful for the other employees.

When asked why she volunteered, she gives the same simple answer. "I enjoy working with the staff at the AMAA and also at River Dell. I don't like to stay home, instead I look for opportunities of service."

The AMAA appreciates Marie's service and we thank God for her. □



Haigazian University's 47th Commencement Ceremonies

On Friday, June 29, 2007, Haigazian University of Beirut, Lebanon graduated a record number of 142 students, in the First Armenian Evangelical Church courtyard, Beirut, in the presence of the President of the Supreme Council of the Evangelical Community in Syria and Lebanon, the Armenian Ambassador to Lebanon H.E. Vahan Der Ghevontian, in addition to a number of former deputies and ministers, clergy, university representatives, diplomats, members of the Board of Trustees, parents and fellow students.

The ceremony started as faculty and graduates marched through the crowd of parents, relatives and friends in a remarkable processional march, followed by the Lebanese National Anthem, and the Invocation by the Campus Minister, Rev. Nishan Bakalian.

In his word of welcome, Haigazian University President, Rev. Dr. Paul Haidostian considered the past year as academically fruitful. Dr. Haidostian also spoke about the role universities should play, especially during these hard days of civil unrest Lebanon is experiencing.

The guest speaker of the ceremony, Dr. Ahmad Al-Jammal, Director General of the Ministry of Higher Education, tackled the issue of higher education in this global world.

Afterwards, Registrar Roubina Artinian and Deans Fadi Asrawi and Arda Ekmekji presented the graduates who received their degrees from President Haidostian.

In their valedictorian addresses, Ani Nadjarian, speaking in English, acknowledged how Haigazian University shaped her life and character, transforming her into a more responsible and self-confident person and valedictorian Muhannad El Muhtar, speaking in Arabic, addressed his fellow students saying, "Lebanon is in deep need of us. Let's get armed with what we've learned at Haigazian, and face all the difficulties of the future by the power of our knowledge and faith in God."

After singing the Alma Mater, the ceremony was concluded with the Benediction given by the President of the Union of the Armenian Evangelical Churches in the Near East, Rev. Meguerdich Karageozian.

The class of 2007 threw their caps in the air and marched out proudly with a unique recessional, while celebratory balloons flew high in the skies. □



Commencement Services of the Armenian Evang'l Merdinian School

The commencement services of the Armenian Evangelical Merdinian School was held on June 23, 2007 in the school auditorium. The ceremony began with the procession of 22 Elementary and 14 Middle School graduates. Following the National and Armenian Anthems, Rev. Joe Matossian, the Minister to the Armenian Evangelical Union of North America offered the opening prayer. The elementary students recited a passage from the Book of Proverbs and valedictorians Tatiana Aposhian addressed the guests in Armenian and Arek Demirjian in English.

The homeroom teachers, Raffi Ghazarian and Armond Gharakhan invited the principal to the podium to present the diplomas to the elementary school graduates.

After the greetings of Dr. Hrair Atikian, Chairman of the Board, a slide show was presented depicting the school life of the elementary students from their childhood to the present day. The school choir presented Armenian patriotic songs and the middle school graduates recited Armenian poetry.

The keynote speaker of the day was Dr. Mihran Agbabian. In his speech, he remembered with much appreciation the benefactors and the founders of the school and encouraged the graduating class to go forward but not cut the ties that bind them to their heritage, family and God.

The valedictorians of the middle school graduating classes Tania Adamian and Silva Sourfazian, addressed the guests in Armenian and in English. Mrs. Lina Arslanian, the homeroom teacher of the 8th grade, invited Mr. Hovsep Inejikian, the principal of the school to the podium to present the diplomas to the middle school graduates.

Following Mr. Inejikian's concluding remarks, Mrs. Dee Chorlian, the Chair of the Parent-Teacher Organization (PTO) presented a check to the school board for \$40,000, bringing the total PTO contribution to the school to \$100,000. The program ended with Rev. Matossian's benediction.

The Merdinian School was founded in 1982 under the auspices of the AMAA and the generosity of benefactress Miss Elise Merdinian. It is the only Armenian Evangelical School in the United States, with a student body of 260 students that serves the community of greater Los Angeles. Having achieved the distinction of accreditation by the Western Association of Schools and College, Merdinian school offers academic excellence within a nurturing Armenian and Christian environment. □

Year End Programs and Graduation Ceremonies in Armenia & Karabagh Schools and Kindergartens



Edward & Pamela Avedisian expressing their gratitude for a successful year.

May hope open the doors of light before us, may faith give wings to our souls, may love nestle in our homes and in the hearts of each one of us. This was the theme in all the presentations of the Kindergarten students of the **Armenian Evangelical Avedisian School of Yerevan, Armenia** during the Graduation Ceremony culminating the 2006-07 scholastic year. The students entertained the parents and the guests with music, recitations, drama and dance. The sponsors of the school, Edward and Pamela Avedisian, were among

the guests. At the end of the Program, the Avedisians expressed their admiration and gratitude for yet another successful year at the Avedisian School and distributed gifts to the students.

The Year End Program and Graduation Ceremony of the **Shoushanig Kindergarten in Gumri, Armenia** was held on July 13. The Kindergarten students presented a beautiful program of songs, dance and recitations. Parents and guests watched the program with admiration. Each graduating student received gifts of school backpack and school supplies presented by the Gumri Center of the AMAA.



In Karabagh, the four AMAA Kindergartens – **Baghdikian Kindergarten of Stepanakert, Bilezikian Kindergarten of Shoushi, Janbazian Kindergarten of Martagerd and Asgeran Kindergarten** (sponsored by AMAC) – each held their Graduation Ceremonies. The theme of the programs was mainly patriotic. The talented children presented programs of songs, recitations, dramas and dance. The joy and satisfaction was evident on the faces of the parents and the guests. About 50 children graduated from the Karabagh Kindergartens. □



Sipan Armenian School Holds Its Year-End Program

The Year-end *hantess* of the Sipan Armenian School, dedicated to the 15th anniversary of the independence of Armenia, took place in the Hekemian Hall at the Armenian Presbyterian Church of Paramus NJ on Friday, June 7.

Amid decorations expressing the splendor of the tri-color Armenian and Karabagh flags, school principal Arpi Panossian Kevorkian opened a program of Armenian poetry recitations and readings, patriotic songs, traditional music, and Armenian folk dances, all performed by the Sipan students, who meet on Friday evenings for two and a half hour-sessions.

Throughout the 2006-07 school year, and on the occasion of the

15th Anniversary of the Republic of Armenia, Sipan students made special donations to the children of Armenia through the Armenian Missionary Association of America.

Sipan Armenian school was established in 1978 under the initiative of the Armenian Evangelical College (of Beirut, Lebanon) Students' Association of America, to provide

local children an opportunity to learn the Armenian language and cultural heritage. The school has programs for Pre-Nursery, Nursery, Pre-K, and Kindergarten students, and first through seventh graders. All classes are bilingual, and are held at the Armenian Presbyterian Church of Paramus, NJ. AMAA Hekemian Family Fund supports the school financially. □



Haigazian University Honors Renowned Photo Journalist Harry Koundakjian

On Tuesday, May 8, 2007, on the occasion of the Lebanese Press Martyrs' Day, and under the auspices of the Minister of Information, H.E. Ghazi Aridi, Haigazian University inaugurated the life work of world-renowned press photographer Harry Koundakjian, at an exhibition entitled "50 Years of Photo Journalism", in the Arthur Matossian Gallery of the university.

After the welcoming words of University President, Rev. Dr. Paul Haidostian, Minister Aridi praised Koundakjian for his 50-year career, and appreciated his bold decision to return to his home, Lebanon, amidst the country's political instability. President Haidostian and Minister Aridi presented Koundakjian with the University's token of recognition.

In his turn, Koundakjian, very touched and emotionally affected by the crowd, thanked the audience for being faithful and for being there. After the ribbon cutting ceremony, the audience followed Koundakjian who was presenting his photographs and the circumstances in which he shot them.

The exhibition featured some 75 photographs, reminding people of the 20th century's most dangerous conflicts, historical moments, as well as the world's famous stars and political figures.

Harry L. Koundakjian began his professional career in 1952, when he joined the Beirut French language paper, *L'Orient* and its sister Arabic publication *Jarida*, as the first press photographer in Lebanon. He joined the Associated Press in 1967, and was appointed



Harry Koundakjian commenting on one of his photographs.

chief of the Associated Press Middle East photo staff in 1969. Koundakjian also worked as a freelancer to many newspapers and magazines like, *Aztag Daily*, *Dar Assayad Publications*, *al Jam-hour al Jadid*, *Magazine*, *al Ousbouh al Arabi*, and international publications like, *Paris Match*, *France Soir*, *Life*, *the Illustrated London News*, *London Daily Mail*, *London's Daily Telegraph* and *London's Economist*. □

LARGE CONTRIBUTION OF HAIR CARE PRODUCTS

In April, when, Mr. John Herkner and his wife Mrs. Kim Lepine informed us of their interest in making an in-kind donation to the AMAA for Armenia, we did not realize how much hair care products Armenia would receive. They donated the entire stock of the Lepine's product line.

Mrs. Lepine became the first woman to launch her own hair salon on Madison Ave. in New York City. In 1998, Mrs. Kim Lepine was voted "Most Newsworthy Hair Designer – Female" in the IBS Editor's Choice Awards. Moreover, she launched her own line of hair treatment products, Modular Hair Care System,

based on natural plant ingredients, which also won rave reviews. By December of 1999, she employed 60 hair-dressers/stylists. Mrs. Lepine is now retired from the profession and enjoys her life with her family.

Mr. & Mrs. Herkner have a passion for traveling around the world. They are interested in taking a trip to Armenia to view firsthand AMAA's work and the role our organization plays there.

We graciously appreciate their heartfelt, generous contribution and the compassion they have expressed to the needy families in Armenia. □



A sample of the donated items: Hair care products, T-Shirts and cups

BOOK SERVICE PROGRAM

BOOKS

- ARMENIAN HISTORY TIMELINE**, by Hagop & Marilyn Arshagouni, 52 pp, hc, No. 289 \$15.00
- AN ARMENIAN FAMILY REUNION**, by Mitchell Kalpakgian. A Lifetime of Unforgettable and Delightful Stories. 159 pp, pb. # 317 \$18.00
- ARMENIAN NEEDLELACE & EMBROIDERY**, by Alice Odian Kasparian, A photographic collection of more than 100 priceless specimens (a third in color), 127 pp, hc. # 120 \$15.00
- ARMENIANS RESOLVE TO SURVIVE TURKISH GENOCIDE**, by Douglas Y. Haig, 258 pp., pb. No. 273..... \$15.00
- A BRIEF HISTORY OF ARMENIA**, by Rev. Sarkis Papajian, 134 pp, pb, No. 140..... \$5.00
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Հայց. Աւետարանական Եկեղեցիի 161-ամեակի առթիւ

Հայ Աւետարանական Եկեղեցիին Առաքելութիւնը

Վեր. Պարգեւ Ն. Տարագճեան

Հայ Աւետարանական պատմաբաններ երկարօրէն գրած են Հայ Աւետարանական Շարժումն ու Եկեղեցին գոյութեան բերող ազդակներուն մասին: Այս յօդուածին նպատակը չէ վերստին արծարծել այն իրադարձութիւնները որոնք ի վերջոյ, ու ակամայ յանգեցան Հայց. Աւետարանական Եկեղեցիի գոյատուրին: Ասոնք կարելոր ըլլալով հանդերձ, հայ ժողովուրդը ընդհանրապէս, ու հայ աւետարանական համայնքի գաւակներ մասնաւորապէս, կարելորութեամբ անդրադառնալու են այս փոքրաթիւ համայնքին բերած համեմատաբար հսկայական ներդրումին՝ հայ կեանքի բոլոր մարզերուն մէջ: Այս մասին ալ գրուած է զանազան առիթներով:

Այսուհանդերձ, ցաւով է նշել որ տակաւին կը գտնուին ազգայիններ որոնք տեղեակ չեն, եւ կամ չեն ուզեր մտաւորական պարկեշտութիւն ցուցաբերելով նանչնալ ու գնահատել ժԹ. դարուն Թուրքիոյ մէջ երեսան եկող հոգեւոր այս համայնքին բերած բարիքները ժամանակակից հայ ժողովուրդի կեանքին մէջ, եւ որոնք կը շարունակուին մինչեւ այսօր: Ոմանք նոյնիսկ կը զլանան յիշելու, թէ Պէյրութի Հայկազեան Համալսարանը՝ հայ սփիւռքի միակ համալսարանը՝ հայ աւետարանական կրթական հաստատութիւն մըն է, որ աւելի քան 50 տարիներէ ի վեր կը ծառայէ հայ նորահաս սերունդին, եւ ցարդ տուած է բազմազար հայ շրջնաւարտներ, որոնք մեծ յաջողութիւններ արձանագրած են զանազան ապարեզներու մէջ: Անոր հիմնադրութեան, ինչպէս նաեւ միջազգային նախաձեռնութիւններուն մէջ հսկայական ու անփոխարինելի դեր ունեցած է Ամերիկայի Հայ Աւետարանական Ընկերակցութիւնը, որ պարծանքն է համասփիւռ հայ աւետարանական համայնքին: Այս Ընկերակցութիւնը իր 90-ամեակը պիտի տօնէ յառաջիկայ տարի:

Վերադառնա՛նք Հայ Աւետարանական Եկեղեցիին համայնքին գոյապատճառին ու առաքելութեան: Երբ մտածեմ այս մասին՝ անպայման միտքս կուգայ Տէր Յիսուսի մէկ յայտարարութիւնը իր առաքելութեան շուրջ՝ որ փոխառնուած է Նսայի մարգարէէն.

«Միբող հոգին իմ սրտս է.

փասնքի սրտս օժեց աղբատներուն աւետարան քարոզելու,

սրտս դրեց կոտրած սրտ ունեցողները բժշկելու.

գերիներու ապստոլներն, ու կոյրերու տեսութիւն շնորհելու,

ու հարստահարութենէ տառապողները ապստաղբելու,

ու Միբող բնորոնելի տարին հռչակելու»:

(Նսայի 61. 1, 2)

Մեզի ծանօթ չէ՝ թէ հայ աւետարանական ոսկիւրաները երբեք անդրադարձած էին մարգարէին ունեցած այս տեսիլին: Սակայն եթէ մտովի արագ ակնարկ մը նետենք այս հոգեւոր շարժումին անցնող 161 տարիներու ծառայութեան՝ անխուսափելի պիտի դառնայ մեզի համար նմանութիւններ տեսնել Յիսուսի առաջադրած ծառայութեան վերոյիշեալ օրակարգին, եւ Հայ Աւետարանական Շարժումի Հիմնադիր Հայրերուն ունեցած մտահոգութիւններուն ու գործելակերպին միջեւ:

Հայ Աւետարանական Շարժումը, Եկեղեցին ու Համայնքը պէտք է դիտուին ժԹ. դարու միջազգային ու մասնաւորապէս ժամանակակից հայ պատմութեան պարունակին մէջ: Պէտք է դիտուին այդ դարուն ընկերային քաղաքական, գիտական, փիլիսոփայական, ու կրօնական յեղաշրջումներու պրիսմակին ընդմէջէն: ԺԹ. դարը զանազան պատմաբաններու կողմէ կոչուեցաւ «Մեծ Դար», «Ընդհանուր Լուսաւորումի Դար», «Աւետարանչութեան Դար», եւլն: Կեդրոնաւարով Օսմանեան Տէրութեան սահմաններուն մէջ ապրող հայ ժողովուրդին կեանքին, ինչպէս նաեւ կովկասահայութեան վրայ՝ հայ պատմաբաններ ու մտաւորականներ կը հաղորդեն մեզի ընդհանուր յեղաշրջումի ու բարեկարգութեան կարիքը, ու հոս ու հոն արձակուող բարձրադաս կոչերը: Մինչ Միթրաքեան Դարոցը կը վերաբաշխէր հայ դասական գրականութիւնը, Կ. Պոլսի իրապաշտ ու վիպապաշտ գրողները կը ներկայացնէին մեզի տգիտութեան մէջ թաղուած հայ ժողովուրդին խղիւղի առօրեան: ԺԹ. դարուն, հայ քաղաքական կուսակցութիւններու շարքին, ու անոնցմէ առաջ՝ երեսան եկան նաեւ կրօնական շարժումներ որոնք կը ձգտէին ժողովուրդը արթնցնել եւ՝ հոգեւոր մարգի մէջ: Կովկասի մէջ յատկապէս՝ աւելի ձայնաւոր դարձան եկեղեցական բարեկարգութիւն պահանջող մտաւորականները, ինչպէս՝ Խաչատուր Աբովեան, «Հիւսիսափայլ»ի խմբագիր՝ Ստեփանոս Նազարեանց, «Մշակ»ի խմբագիր Գրիգոր Արծրունի, ու տակաւին՝ Բաֆֆի, Միքայէլ Նալպանտեան, Մեսրոպ Թաղեաթեանց, եւ ուրիշներ՝ որոնք որոշակի եկեղեցական «րիֆորմ» պահանջեցին: Ասոնք աւետարանական չէին, սակայն, այն աստիճան համակրութիւն ունէին ժԶ. Դարու Գերմանիոյ Բողոքական Շարժումին ու Եւրոպայի լուսաւորումին նկատմամբ՝ որ ժամանակակից խիստ պահպանողական տարրեր զանոնք «Լոնքական» (Լուտերական) կոչեցին, ու խստօրէն դատապարտեցին անոնց դիրքը: Այս պարագան հասկնալի կը դառնայ

մանաւանդ՝ երբ նկատի ունենանք որ յիշեալ անձերէն ոմանք եւրոպական, ու յատկապէս գերմանական ուսում ստացած ըլլալով «երկիր» վերադարձած էին:

Ինչո՞ւ կ'ըսենք այս բոլորը: Քանի որ յաճախ փորձեր կ'ըլլան Հայ Աւետարանական Շարժումը դուրս բերել միջազգային ու ազգային լուսաւորումի շարժումներէն, ու դիտել զայն իբրեւ օտար միսիոնարութեամբ պայմանաւորուած առանձնակի, ու բացասական երեւոյթ մը հայ ժողովուրդի կեանքին մէջ: Մենք չենք կրնար այսպիսիները տարհամոզել, բայց միայն յանձնարարել անոնց որ անկաշառ հոգիով կարդան Հայ Աւետարանական Եկեղեցիին 161 տարիներու ծառայական պատմութիւնը: Կարդալէ ետք՝ քողանոցի քաղցրահամ հայաւետարանականներու ընդգրկած ազգային ընդհանուր վերելքի տեսիլքն ու գործելակերպը՝ Յիսուս Քրիստոսի ընդգրկած առաքելութեան ու գործելակերպին հետ գորս դրած ենք վերը:

Կրկնենք: Աւետարանակութիւնը ընդգրկող ազգայիններ համոզուած էին որ ժԹ. դարու առաջին քառորդին Կ. Պոլսի մէջ կազմակերպուած «Բարեպաշտական Միաբանութիւն»ը, որ նաեւ կը կոչուէր «Հայկազունեան Ընկերութիւն»՝ կրօնական կամ հոգեւոր մէկ արտայայտութիւնն էր հայկական

նորածագ «Րնեսանս»ին, այսինքն, զարթօնքին: Միաբանութեան անդամները զգացին թէ Տիրոջ հոգին իրենց վրայ էր: Անոնք ունեցան Պէնտէկոստէի փորձառութիւն, ու Ս. Հոգիով առլցուն, եւ յետադարձ ակնարկով՝ տեսան նախնական Եկեղեցին իր համակարգ ու անսեքեւեք կերպարանքին մէջ: Անոնց անմեղ բայց միամիտ բաղանքը եղաւ նախնական այդ Եկեղեցիին պարզութեան վերադառնալ: Սակայն, կ'երեւի թէ ժամանակը չէր հասունցած մամն բաղանք մը իրագործելու: Հայոց Եկեղեցին ու հայ ժողովուրդը պատրաստ չէին մամն արմատական փայլ մը առնելու: Հետեւաբար, բարեկարգութիւն պահանջողներ դուրս դրուեցան Հայոց Մայր Եկեղեցիէն, ու ստիպողաբար կազմեցին Հայաստանեայց Աւետարանական Եկեղեցին - իրենց աւագանի մկրտութեան անունով:

Ու հիմա, 161 տարիներ ետք, Հայ Աւետարանական Եկեղեցին կը ներկայանայ Աստուծոյ ու հայ ժողովուրդին դատաստանին: Հաւատարիմ մնա՞ց ան իր տեսիլքին ու ծառայական կեանքին մէջ: Ի՞նչ չափով: Կրկին կարդանք Տէր Յիսուսի աշխատանքի ծրագիրն ու բովանդակութիւնը, եւ Սուրբ Հոգիին առաջնորդութիւնը խնդրենք որպէսզի ամբողջութեամբ մերը ընենք այդ պատմական ու խորիմաստ մարտահրաւէրը: □

Լոյս Տեսալ Զաւէն Խանճեանի «Այս Տունը Քրօնի է Թէ Իմա» Գիրքը Ուխտագնացութիւն Դէպի Արեւմտահայաստան - Կիլիկիա եւ Պոլիս



Շնորհակալութեամբ ստացանք վերջերս լոյս տեսած «Այս Տունը Քրօնի է Թէ Իմա» գիրքը, որ կը պատկերացնէ հեղինակին՝ Պրն. Զաւէն Խանճեանի վերջերս կատարած ուխտագնացութիւնը դէպի Արեւմտահայաստան - Կիլիկիա եւ Պոլիս:

Գիրքին նախաբանը գրուած է վաստակաւոր գրող, հայրենի տաղանդաշատ արձակագիր Ստեփան Ալաճաճեանի կողմէ որ կ'ըսէ. «Զաւէն Խանճեանի այս գիրքը, որ «Ուխտագնացութիւն» է վերնագրուած, ընդառաջ գնալն է այն ձայնին, որ գալիս է մեր պապերին պատկանած հնաւանդ ու հարազատ հողից, որի տակ յաւերժ ու անհանդարտ ճնշում են նրանք: ...Այս գիրքը վերագարթնումն է այն հաւատքին, որ մենք մեր պապերից իբրեւ ժառանգութիւն ստացել ենք նաեւ մեր ազգային պատկանելիութիւնը, որի գիտակցութիւնն էլ հենց մղում է մեզ ընդառաջ գնալ մեր հողի ձայնին: ...Զաւէն Խանճեանի ուղեգրութիւնը վկայութիւնն է նաեւ այն բանի, որ պապերի ծննդավայրը այցելելու ցանկութիւնը ու իբրեւ հայրենի հող ու սրբազան մասունք, շատ անելի հզօր է, քան օտար հողում ծննդավայրի տեսնելու բաղձանքը...»

Վերոյիշեալ գիրքը ստանալու համար կարելի է դիմել հեղինակին՝ - 1934 Erin Way, Glendale, CA 91206, E-mail: Zaven@KanjyanRealty.com

Հայերէն Աստուածաշունչներ

Ամերիկայի Հայ Աւետարանական Ընկերակցութեան Կեդրոնատեղիէն կարելի է ստանալ Հայերէն Աստուածաշունչներ տարբեր կազմերով եւ ծաւալով: Ստանալու համար հաճեցէք ամբողջացնել վարի կտրօնը եւ դրկել AMAA Book Service Program, 31 West Century Road, Paramus, NJ 07652

Այո, կը փափաքիմ ունենալ

- օրինակ սեւ լաթակազմ - հատը \$25
- օրինակ ճերմակ թղթակազմ - հատը \$20
- օրինակ սեւ կաշեկազմ - հատը \$30
- օրինակ ճերմակ կաշեկազմ - հատը \$30
- օրինակ մեծածաւալ կանաչ լաթակազմ - հատը \$20

Ընդհանուր Գումար -----

Անուն -----

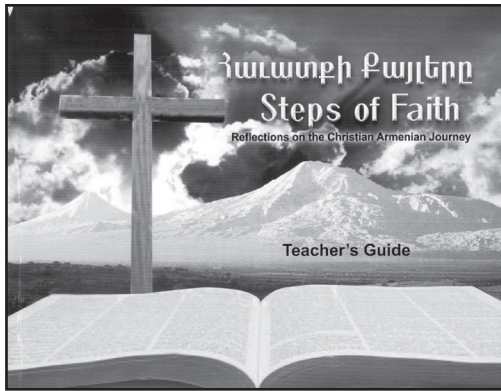
Հասցէ -----

Որպէս առաքման ծախս հաճեցէք ւեցնել \$4.00 առաջին օրինակին համար եւ \$2.00 իւրաքանչիւր յաւելեալ օրինակի համար: (Գանատայի համար Ամերիկեան \$6.00 առաջին օրինակին համար եւ Ամերիկեան \$3 իւրաքանչիւր յաւելեալ օրինակի համար):

Ծանօթ: 10-է անելի օրինակներու համար 20% զեղջ պիտի տրուի: Հաճեցէք չէքերը գրել AMAA անունով:

New Publication - a Teacher's Guide for children in Sunday Schools, Vacation Bible Schools, Summer camps etc.

Steps of Faith: *Reflections on the Christian Armenian Journey* - Teacher's Guide



The Primary focus of the curriculum of this book is God, and God alone. However, it is hoped that both teachers and students (as well as their families) will come to understand that God is with, and always will be with, the Armenian people.

Armenia has many heroes and martyrs. It should not be forgotten **why** they were heroes and martyrs - either God helped them or they sacrificed for God. The curriculum is prepared with the prayer that students will deepen their relationship with God through a better understanding of Armenian History. It is intended for children aged 7 to 11, who come from an Armenian background. It is organized in such a way that each lesson explores a significant event or concept in Armenian history and puts this history in a Christian context.

The curriculum views the Bible as the final authority, over and above anything that has taken place in history. The story ideas are derived from Armenian History, but the Bible has a central role. The curriculum may be used in (but is not limited to) Sunday School, Vacation Bible School (VBS), Armenian heritage camp, summer camps, one day retreats or similar seminars, children's sermons, and other opportunities as the need arises.

To obtain copies of this book you may contact the headquarters of the Armenian Evangelical Union of North America, 616 North Glendale Ave, Suite 23, Glendale, CA 91206, Tel. 1.626.798.6589, E-mail: ministertotheunion@aeuna.org

Sahag-Mesrob Armenian Christian School Visits AMAA Headquarters in New Jersey

On May 21, 2007, 43 Eighth Grade students and 10 chaperons visited the AMAA headquarters in Paramus New Jersey. AMAA Field Director, Mr. Dikran Youmshakian welcomed the group, gave a brief history of the AMAA and talked about the mission and service ministries of the organization. The students with enthusiasm listened and asked questions. They were given a tour of the facilities.

During its 9 year traditional trip to the East Coast, Sahag-Mesrob students visit historic sites in Boston, Philadelphia, New York and Washington DC. They also visit Armenian schools, churches and headquarters of Armenian organizations to learn about the wonderful work they do keeping our rich Christian heritage alive in the Diaspora and helping Armenia to become a stronger nation.

The AMAA has been a friend, a sponsor and a supporter of the school for the past 27 years. Every year, the school receives a generous donation from the AMAA Sheen

Family Fund. Many students benefit from this fund by receiving financial assistance.

The school has grown in leaps and bounds over the past few years. It is accredited by the Western Association of Schools and Colleges and Association of Christian Schools International. The enrollment has increased by 50% from 250 students to 375 students. Three years ago the school started a High School program. With God's leadership and abundant blessing, the school gave its first High School graduates from an Accredited High School in June 2007. Thereby, being the first Armenian Christian High School in the United States. We thank God for His faithfulness.

The mission of the school is to provide the students a Christ centered education, within an Armenian heritage and cultural programs, wherein each student becomes



acquainted with Christian teaching and faith; the Armenian language and history; and excellence in learning under disciplined conditions. The school activities are non-sectarian and non-political. □

The AMAA Board of Directors and staff also wish to extend their heartfelt condolences to the families of the following deceased friends whose names were submitted to us for publication in the AMAA News

Rose Kevorkian
Austin, TX
Esther Yeung
Pasadena, CA

Rev. Dr. Krikor Greg Haleblan

Rev. Dr. Krikor Greg Haleblan, founder and senior pastor of the St. Nareg Armenian Church of Whittier, CA, entered into the presence of his Lord and Savior, on Sunday, June 24, 2007. He devoted his life to proclaiming the Gospel from the moment that he became a Christian until his last breath.



Rev. Haleblan was born on September 15, 1943, in Aleppo, Syria, to Nerses and Miriam Haleblan. He was the youngest in a family of six boys and one girl, and was raised in the Armenian Orthodox Church. He experienced a life-changing encounter with the Lord Jesus Christ at the age of 17. Not long after, he felt led to share his new-found treasure with others. He left his home and family and enrolled in the Nazarene Bible College in Lebanon. Later, he came to the United States to continue his studies, receiving his MA in 1975 from the Nazarene Theological Seminary in Kansas City. He returned to Lebanon to minister to the Armenian people, but was forced to return to the US because of the outbreak of the Civil War. He resumed his education at the Fuller Theological Seminary in Pasadena, CA, and received a Master of Theology degree in 1979 and a Ph.D. in 1982 in Missiology. He taught evangelism at Fuller, the History of the Armenian Church, and many other subjects and wrote two books, **Contextualization and French Structuralism** and **The Armenian Church in Context**.

During the course of his seminary studies, Rev. Haleblan met his future life partner, Arpi Euredjian and they were married on June 19, 1976. They were blessed with two daughters, Lisa and Liana.

In 1979 he was one of the founding members of the Armenian Nazarene Church of Glendale, where he served on the Board and worked as a youth leader until 1981. In November 1981, he founded the St. Nareg Armenian Church in Montebello, CA, with a vision to reach Armenians who had been raised in the Orthodox tradition for the Lord. He blended the liturgical tradition of the *Lousavorchagan* church with the evangelical message of salvation through a personal relationship with Christ. He opened his home for Bible studies, counseling, fellowship, and outreach. At various times in his ministry, he simultaneously did the work of the pastor, secretary, janitor, church van driver, choir conductor, social worker, coach, camp leader, cook, teacher, counselor, mediator, and more.

The character of a person is often best revealed in times of difficulty. When faced

with the diagnosis of cancer, Pastor Greg expressed his willingness to share in the sufferings of Christ. Although he suffered physically toward the end of his life, his personal attitude of peace, courage, and hope in the Lord was an inspiration to his congregation, his family, and his friends. He was a "good and faithful servant" to the end.

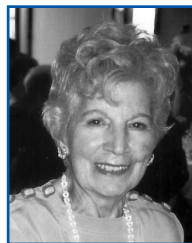
Rev. Haleblan is survived by his loving wife, Arpi, their two daughters, Lisa Keledjian and Liana Haleblan, son-in-law, Dr. Jason Keledjian, sister, Levonig Seferian, brothers, Manuel, Garabet, Hagop and Missak Haleblan, and loving nieces, nephews, cousins, church members, and friends. His life had a profound impact on many, and he and his legacy of service for the Lord will be remembered with love and thanksgiving. □

Armen Marian Kasabach

Armen Marian Kasabach passed away peacefully at her home in Southfield, Michigan April 17, 2007. A beautiful memorial service and reception was held April 27th at the Detroit Armenian Congregational Church in Southfield, MI. Mrs. Kasabach, wife of former Board member and Detroit Chapter head, the late Dr. Harry Y. Kasabach, was a Lifetime Member and longtime supporter of the Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA). As a couple, they hosted many Armenian dignitaries in their home. She chaired the Detroit Chapter after Dr. Kasabach's passing, as well as the AMAA's Fiftieth Anniversary Banquet, in his memory, in 1971.

Armen Kasabach was also very active in other aspects of the Armenian community, both locally and nationally. She was an integral leader and active participant in the Detroit Armenian Congregational Church, as a Sunday School teacher, choir member, interim choir director, Young Women's Fellowship, and Board of Deacons. She chaired fundraising for the Institute for Armenian Blind and Deaf in the early '70s. Being three times its President, she remained active in the Detroit Armenian Women's Club as a longtime advisor and visionary, where she chaired the Scholarship and Donations Committee. She was also on the membership committee of the local chapter of the Armenian Assembly in recent years. Armen was generous with her time and finances, supporting many other causes.

Born in 1917 to Dr. Levon & Elmon (Besh) Getoor, she attended the University of Michigan where she graduated in 1939 with a B.A. in Music. Armen had a lifelong love and enjoyment of opera and classical music. She was the consummate homemaker, taking much deserved pride in her culinary skills. She loved hosting parties and functions for family, friends and organizations.



She was an ardent gardener, drawing praise from neighbors and friends, and enjoyed traveling for both historic and cultural objectives, to share time with her family and to immerse herself in nature's beauty. She often took on activities that many of her contemporaries thought unusual, one being a two week rafting and camping trip on the Colorado River when she was 70 years old.

After her husband's untimely passing, Armen returned to school, attending Wayne State University, for studies in health and science. She became a member of the American Nutrition Consultants Assoc., doing public speaking and counseling on that subject about which she was passionate.

Sharing time with her family gave Armen much joy, and she shared with them her love of life, music, nature and travel. Her daughters, Marcia Kasabach & Joan K. Swain, and grandsons, Dela & Austin Longfish were with her in her final days, and shared many sweet moments before her spirit passed on to be with her beloved Harry and dear family and friends who had predeceased her. She will be missed by many for years to come by those who knew and admired her talents, strengths and spirit. Memorial donations can be made to the Detroit Armenian Women's Club (Child Sponsorship) and the AMAA. □

Loulou Kaldjian

Loulou Kaldjian was born October 19, 1923 in Aleppo, Syria to Yuhanna and Gurji Kupelian. At the age of 2, the family moved to Brussels, Belgium, where she received most of her education. At the age of 10, she was blessed with a sister Zabel Kupelian.

During the start of World War II, the family relocated back to Syria, where she taught French and Physical Education at various schools, including Giligia, Emmanuel and Aleppo College.

In 1946, she met Mr. Samuel Kaldjian and married him. They were blessed with three children. Barkev, the eldest who is married to Christine have two children (Kevin and Natalie), Maral and Raffi., married to Sonya.

In 1965, Mr. and Mrs. Samuel Kaldjian moved their family to Shtora, Lebanon, until the Civil War of Lebanon forced them to immigrate to Ann Arbor, Michigan in 1977, and after a few months, they moved to Van Nuys, CA.

Loulou Kaldjian's life was dedicated to her family and church.

On June 15, 2007 Loulou left this world leaving behind her children, daughter-in-laws and two grandchildren.

Loulou was an exceptional daughter, sister, wife and grandmother. She was an upright woman, full of principle, morals and character. She will be missed dearly and will continue to be a shining example in the lives of her dear ones. □

OFFICIAL CALL TO THE 88th ANNUAL MEETING OF THE ARMENIAN MISSIONARY ASSOCIATION OF AMERICA

The Eighty Eight Annual Meeting of the Armenian Missionary Association of America (AMAA), will be held on Saturday, October 13, 2007, at 9:30 a.m. at the Armenian Evangelical Church of Chicago, 905 West Golf Road, Mount Prospect, IL. All members of the AMAA are invited to attend the meeting to:

- I. Consider and approve the reports of the Officers, Committees, Chapters, and Affiliated boards of the Association for fiscal 2006-2007;
- II. Review the financial reports for fiscal 2006-2007;
- III. Announce the results of the elected eight Board members to replace those whose terms have expired;
- IV. Elect four members to the Nominating Committee;
- V. Elect an Auditor;
- VI. Consider and act upon any other business that may legitimately come before the membership.

PROGRAM OF THE 88th ANNUAL MEETING AND RELATED ACTIVITIES

Friday, October 13 at the Armenian Evangelical Church of Chicago

- 9:00 a.m.Armenian Evangelical World Council Meeting
2:00 p.m.SEMINAR
7:00 p.m.AMAA Board of Directors Meeting

Saturday, October 14 at the Armenian Evangelical Church of Chicago

- 9:30 a.m.88th ANNUAL MEETING
2:00 p.m.AMAA Board of Directors Meeting (Short Session)

Saturday, October 14

- 6:30 p.m.88th ANNUAL MEETING BANQUET

Sunday, October 15 at the Armenian Evangelical Church of Chicago

- 11:00 a.m.88th Annual Meeting Worship Service and Installation of AMAA Officers
5:00 p.m.AEUNA Board of Directors Meeting

Monday, October 16 at the Armenian Evangelical Church of Chicago

- 9:30 p.m.AEUNA Board of Directors Meeting

As members of the AMAA world-wide family, we look forward to this annual gathering to renew our ties of fellowship as Armenian Evangelical churches and communities, and to strengthen our common mission around the world. With joy we eagerly anticipate your presence and participation.



Armenian Missionary Association of America
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